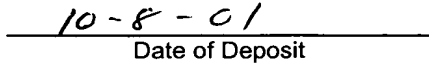


AS



Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Hideki Masudaya

Serial No. 09/837,988

**Filing Date: April 19, 2001**

### For Input Device Having Plurality of Function Switches

Group Art Unit No. 2673

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Dear Sir:**

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicant hereby submits references A1-A3 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

Also enclosed is a copy of the European Search Report issued on August 24, 2001 for the corresponding European Patent Application No. 01109684.9 of the above-identified application.

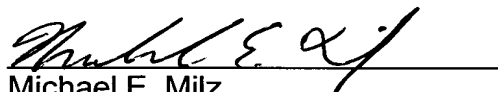
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicant reserves the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and Applicant does not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally

determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicant's invention or that these references make Applicant's invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,

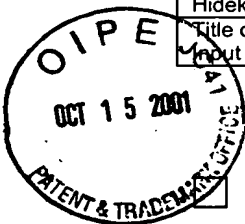
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Milz", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael E. Milz  
Registration No. 34,880  
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
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GAU2673

TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Case No. 9281-3982
Serial No. 09/837,888	Filing Date April 19, 2001	Examiner Group Art Unit 2673	
Inventor Hideki Masudaya			
Title of Invention Input Device Having Plurality of Function Switches			



## TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith is Information Disclosure Statement.

Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.

- ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR §§ 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- ☐ Petition for a \_\_\_\_\_ month extension of time.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra
Total		Minus		
Indep.		Minus		
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim				

Small Entity		or	Other Than Small Entity	
Rate	Add'l Fee		Rate	Add'l Fee
x \$9=			x \$18=	
x 42=			x \$84=	
+\$140=			+\$280=	
Total add'l fee	\$		Total add'l fee	\$

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michael E. Milz*  
 Michael E. Milz  
 Registration No. 34,880  
 Attorney for Applicant

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on 10-8-01

Date: 10-8-01Signature: *Michael E. Milz*

rev. Dec.-01

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*Est*